

January 4, 2005

Country of Origin Labeling Program Agricultural Marketing Service 1400 Independence Ave. SW, USDA STOP 0249 Washington, DC 20250-0249

To whom it may concern,

The citizens of the United States are concerned about the current situation we are in with the so-called shortage of gas and the record prices. In 20 years or less the citizens of the United States will have an even greater concern. We will be at the mercy of a third world country to feed us. Currently there are other options to the fuel problems; there are no other options for a nation that cannot feed itself. The United States as we know it will no longer exist.

The United States Government has addressed this problem for several years now but has not encouraged the country to come together with the food-labeling program. Our nation is losing processing plants and family farms at an alarming rate. This loss stems mostly from the fact that American consumers have no way to identify United States grown food products, leaving the American farmer without a market. With the loss of the market farmers are unable to survive.

The introduction of the Country of Origin Labeling Program is the answer to the problem. Educate the consumer and they will choose United States grown and processed food products. The answer however is not state-by-state or commodity-by-commodity identification and advertising. Consumers will not look for wording or several different identifying marks on food products. The time restraints of the American consumer will not allow the search. Consumers require 1(one) universal logo.

Therefore, US Grown, Inc. has developed and patented and easily identifiable logo (shown below) representing everything grown and processed or developed in the United States. US Grown, Inc., is a non-profit corporation in upstate NY dedicated to the promotion of that logo representing US Agriculture. With the purchase of a contract by farmers or processors allowing them to implement our logo on their label, US Grown, Inc. will provide the advertising for the education of the American consumer. The US Grown, Inc. logo has been proven to work with a survey conducted by Harris Interactive of Rochester NY. We conducted the \$25,000.00 survey sponsored in collaboration with New York Apple Growers Association and DeMay Labor, proving that given a choice, American consumers will choose food grown and processed in the United States.

US Grown, Inc. does not have the funds or experience to launch a campaign of this magnitude alone. We need the support of our Government in encouraging the use of our logo in the Country of Origin Labeling Program. In Addition, a one-time donation from the Government would give us the funds necessary to activate an advertising agency and a full marketing team. The Government continuously gives money to support the farming industry, which is an honorable gesture, however this only sustains a handful of farmers for a limited time. The financial donation to US Grown, Inc. would also create a permanent non-government solution to the problem. Our plan will put jobs back into small communities, keep the processing plants operating, sustain the family farm, and bring confidence to American consumers.

Please consider our logo for the universal sign of the United States and consider US Grown, Inc. for the support we need. We would be honored to make the trip to speak with you in person regarding this proposal. Please visit our website to learn more about our plan www.usgrown.com. We are very anxious to hear from you.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully yours,

Diane McKeon US Grown, Inc.

